(c) and (d) The anti-smuggling drive has been intensified and the anti-smuggling machinery throughout the country particularly in the vulnerable areas and the land borders and the coastline and at the international airports and seaports has been geared up. Close co-ordination is being maintained between all the agencies concerned in the prevention and detection of smuggling including that of gold. Sophisticated equipment such as X-ray baggage machines, metal detectors and night vision binoculars are being increasingly used.

Deposits in Nationalised Banks

1679. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that deposits in the nationalised banks have been constantly decreasing for the last four years;

(b) if so, what were the annual deposits in each bank yearwise, during the above period;

(c) what are the reasons for decline in the deposits;

(d) whether any steps are being taken by Government to attract people to deposit their money in banks; and

(e) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (e) There has been a steady increase in the aggregate deposits of nationalised banks during the last four years and the figures are as follows:

..	(Amount in Rs. crores)
December, 1985	52366.91
December, 1986	63666.71
December, 1987	74135.81
December, 1988	88693.57

The annual aggregate deposits bank-wise are given in the annexure [See Appendix CXLIX, Annexure No. 92.]

Mobilisation of deposits is an important activity of the banks and they strive for these through their service/banking facilities.

Seizure of Gold

1680. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Hindustan Times of the 14th February, 1989 to the effect that the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence officials seized gold worth Rs. 25 crores during the month of February, 1989;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether any arrests have been made in this connection;

(d) whether any inquiry has since been conducted into the matter and if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) what is the number of such cases detected during the last two years and what are the results of inquiry in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Officers of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence have seized 743 Kgs. of gold worth Rs. 24.37 crores approximately in the month of February, 1989 in six different cases. A sea-going vessel worth Rs. 10 crores has also been seized in one of the cases. 23 persons have been arrested in these cases.

(e) The number of cases booked and the value of contraband seized as well as the quantity and value of gold seized during the last two calender years of 1987 and 1988 are given in the table below:-

Year	Number of cases booked	Value of contraband seized (Rs. in crores)	Quantity of gold seized (in Kgs.)	Value of gold seized (Rs. in crores)
1987	55,873	251.47	2255	65.78
1988*	62,293	433.15	6094	200.51

* Figures are provisional.

Statistics of cases involving seizures of gold alone are not maintained separately.

Seizure of Brown Sugar in Bombay

1681. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Hindustan Times of the 15th February, 1989 to the effect that brown sugar worth Rs. 81 crores has been seized near Bombay;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether any arrests have been made in this connection and what action has been taken against the persons apprehended?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. On 14.2.1989, the officers of the Flying Squad of Prohibition & Excise Department of Government of Maharashtra had seized 80 kgs. of brown sugar/heroin from a storage point at Madanpura, Bombay, consequent to the apprehension of one Mohd. Sahib Mohd. Zuber at Hotel Heritage at Central Bombay and recovery of 1 kg. of heroin from him. In this connection, 7 persons in all had been arrested (including two from Pakistan) and remanded to judicial custody till 14.3.1989.

No precise value of the drug seized can be furnished as this is dependent upon various factors like purity, place of origin, local demand and supply, etc.

Simplification of Export Documents

1682. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry have recommended to the Finance Ministry for simplificaton of export documents; if so, in what sphere the simplification has been sought and whether these have been resolved;

(b) what measures are being contemplated to cut down red tapism and whether various trade bodies have complained about this; and

(c) whether Government have assured support to all Indian exporters to raise country's exports and if so, what would be estimated, exports in the current financial year as against last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE